

# OKINAWA MARINE

FEBRUARY 5, 2010

WWW.OKINAWA.USMC.MIL

## CORPSMAN UP



Petty Officer 2nd Class William Harris was presented two Bronze Star Medals and a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, all with combat device, for his actions during a deployment to Afghanistan November 2008 through August. **SEE STORY AND PHOTO ON PAGE 3** Photo by Lance Cpl. Aaron Hostutler

## Cobra Gold commences

**Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

UTAPAO AIR BASE, Thailand — The 29th annual Cobra Gold exercise began at Utapao Air Base Monday.

Cobra Gold is an annual Thai/U.S. co-sponsored joint and multi-national theater campaign plan exercise designed to train a Thai, U.S., Singaporean and Republic of South Korea coalition task force. Japan and Indonesia have also been invited to participate.

Army Lt. Gen. Benjamin Mixon, U.S. Army Pacific commanding general and co-exercise commander, said this exercise is a chance for participating nations to develop lasting friendships and enhance cooperation.

"It's imperative our separate militaries learn to work with each other ... and rehearse for the day their services are needed to answer that call for help," said Mixon.

Cobra Gold 10 will include a U.S. joint and multiple command post exercise, multi-national United Nations Force CPX, several humanitarian/civic assistance projects and a global peace operation initiative field training exercise.

In addition to participating nations, several countries, including China, South Africa and Chile, will observe the Coalition Task Force and UNF CPX.

Ten countries, among them Bangladesh, United Kingdom and Italy, were selected for a multi-national planning augmentation team to participate in the CTF and UNF CPX.

Eric John, U.S. ambassador to Thailand, said it was imperative the various militaries work together to support peace and stability.

SEE **GOLD** PG 5

## Officer awarded Bronze Star with V

**Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — Maj. Jonathan Bossie, a 12-year veteran of the Marine Corps, was awarded a Bronze Star Medal with combat device in a ceremony on Camp Hansen Jan. 22.

"I never thought I'd receive such an esteemed award for just doing my job," Bossie said. "I was just making sure our unit accomplished our mission, despite the hostile environment."

Bossie was recognized for courageous leadership and fearlessness while serving as officer-in-charge of Embedded Training Team 5-4 and advisor to the Afghan National Army in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, according to his award citation.

"During their 11-month deployment, Bossie and

his unit were constantly under direct and indirect fire from insurgents," said Col. Michael Langley, officer-in-charge of Special Operations Training Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "Though they were small in number, Bossie and his Marines were committed to helping the local people, defending against insurgency and getting the job done."

Bossie said despite the danger of continuous enemy contact, he strived to ensure his Marines were always motivated to complete the mission.

"Looking out for your fellow Marines overrides any fear or doubt you might have when you're in a dangerous situation," Bossie said.

Bossie added that the members of his unit easily merit the award.

"Honestly, this award could've gone to every person in my unit," Bossie said. "I was fortunate

SEE **BRONZE** PG 5

**IN THIS  
ISSUE**

### EASING HUNGER PAINS

SCMAGTF-Africa and the United Nations workers bring edible relief to Haitian people.

**PG. 4**



### KING OF CAGE

Mixed martial arts tournament draws crowds to Okinawa Convention Center.

**PG. 12**



# Leadership

## more than rank

Cpl. Monty Burton

What is a true leader? What is it that drives individuals to want to follow their leaders into battle? These questions might never have absolute answers because with every leader, it's something different.

By definition, a leader is a person who has commanding authority or influence. In many ways this definition is true, but as Marines, we must realize there is more to this term than any dictionary can define.

The Marine Corps' legacy is spearheaded by the awesome leaders we produce. When you look at Marine Corps legends such as Chesty Puller, Dan Daly and John Basilone, what sets them apart from other leaders are their actions.

Showing a subordinate you are willing to uphold the same standards you expect from them gains more respect than any rank could demand.

One thing I have noticed is many Marines expect respect based solely on the brass or numerous stripes on their collar.

Many think just because they have been in longer than you and have attained a higher rank that is all they need to be respected.

This is very untrue.

A staff noncommissioned officer in Afghanistan once

everything possible to set your Marines up for success. You should know you are forever conscious of each Marine under your charge and, by example, will inspire him to the highest standards possible.

There are Marines who can't say that.

There are Marines who feel as if burning every Marine who comes to a bump in the road is true leadership.

To me, if you constantly have to charge your Marines, then there is something wrong with your leadership style. There is something you are not doing right, which prevents your Marines from being successful and wanting to do the right thing

when nobody is watching them. And it probably starts with our actions as leaders.

No matter your rank, all Marines should strive to be the best leader they can possibly be.

I have spoken with many Marines, both junior and senior to me, about leadership and one fact remains the same. Marines respect leaders who have proven themselves competent, trustworthy and who lead by example.

*Burton is a combat correspondent with the Okinawa Marine.*

“Never give anybody a reason not to respect you.”



told me to never give anybody a reason not to respect you. He told me no matter the rank you hold, your character tells more about you than any rank or award could. This doesn't mean being a pushover or being nice, but letting your Marines know you will support them in their times of need.

There is a vast difference between respecting rank and respecting a Marine as a leader. As a leader, you should never have to question which category you fall under. You should already know you have done



## This Week in History

SOURCE: U.S. MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION

**February 5, 1946:** 5th Marine Division deactivated at Camp Pendleton, Calif.

**Feb. 6, 1968:** In Vietnam, two reduced Marine battalions, the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, with two companies, and 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, with three companies, recaptured Hue City's hospital, jail, and provincial headquarters. The city was secured only after three weeks of intense house-to-house fighting with nearly a thousand Marines killed and wounded.

**Feb. 7, 2005:** The 31st MEU relinquished responsibility of Iraq's western Al Anbar province and then began the return voyage to Okinawa, Japan, on Feb. 28.

**Feb. 11, 1922:** Brig. Gen. John H. Russell was appointed U.S. High Commissioner and the personal representative of the U.S. President to the Haiti government. The nine-year assignment put the future commandant in supreme command of the occupying American forces and Haitian Gendarmerie.

**Feb. 11, 2002:** Marines of Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 352 "Raiders" were the first to return from Afghanistan to Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. The unit deployed to Afghanistan only 16 days after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.



## FACT CHECK

### PT GEAR IN MESS HALL

**Q:** At anytime am I allowed to wear the issued running suit to the mess hall?

**A:** Yes, according to Marine Corps Bases Japan mess hall regulations, Marines are allowed to wear physical training gear Monday, Wednesday and Friday after 7:30 a.m. if unit PT runs late and Marines use the fast chow line and get their food to go. Marines may not sit down and eat in the mess hall in PT gear.



The Okinawa Marine is published by Marine Corps Community Services under exclusive written contract with Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan.

The editorial content of this newspaper is edited and approved by the Consolidated Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler.

This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of military services stationed overseas, at sea and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps and do not imply endorsement thereof.

The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts of supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the U.S.

Marine Corps, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler or Marine Corps Community Services of the products and services advertised.

Everything advertised in this newspaper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

All photos, unless otherwise indicated, are "official U.S. Marine Corps photos." For more information, e-mail us at okinawamarine.mcbf.fct@usmc.mil or write to us at Public Affairs Office, H&S BN MCB PAO, Unit 35002, FPO AP 96373-5002.

**COMMANDING GENERAL** Maj. Gen. Mary Ann Krusa-Dossin

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR** Lt. Col. Douglas M. Powell

**PRESS OFFICER** 2nd Lt. Jordan R. Cochran

**PRESS CHIEF** Gunnery Sgt. Cindy Fisher

**DESIGN EDITOR** Audra A. Satterlee

**OKINAWA MARINE NEWSPAPER**

H&S Battalion MCB PAO

Unit 35002

FPO AP 96373-5002

**CENTRAL BUREAU**

Camp Foster

DSN 645-7422

**NORTHERN BUREAU**

Camp Hansen

DSN 623-4054



# Corpsman recognized for valor in Afghanistan

**Lance Cpl. Aaron Hostutler**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA — “Everybody was kind of on edge, you could tell,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class William Harris recently referring to a mission last July in Afghanistan.

Harris was deployed to Afghanistan as an embedded advisor with Embedded Training Team 5-4 working with 3<sup>rd</sup> Kandak, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade, 201<sup>st</sup> Corps, Afghanistan National Army, Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, from November 2008 through August.

On July 30 Harris, Cpl. Mark Madding and Captain John Farris, about 60 Afghanistan National Army soldiers along with U.S. soldiers patrolled to the village of Laui Kalal.

“We knew this was going to be a big one,” said Harris, now a corpsman with Marine Air Control Squadron 4, Marine Air Control Group 18, 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. “We didn’t have helo support. ... We never went into Laui Kalal without helo support.

The entrance to the village was a treacherous one, Harris remembered. It started with a 500 meter stretch of road known as the Dallas Dash.

“We’re totally exposed,” he said. “There’s nothing but a cliff on one side and a mountain side on the other with no trees. That’s where all hell broke loose.”

On past patrols to the village, contact never came on the way into the village, according to Harris. It had always been on egress but this day was different.

“It was my captain who said it. ‘Don’t’ worry, we’re not going to get shot. We never get shot going in,” Harris said.

Then the patrol heard, “Snap. Snap. Snap. Pop. Pop. Pop. Everything just started going crazy,” Harris recalled.

Taking heavy enemy fire, the patrol called in for helicopter support, but they were doing a mission to the north in the Pech valley.

Patrol members used prebuilt barriers which they had set up during earlier patrols to bound to their objective while still laying down suppressive fire in the mountain side.

“Eventually the fighting died down, and the helos tore up the mountainside,” he said.

After the helicopters suppressed the enemy, Harris and the patrol continued into the village to conduct key leader engagements, talks with the village leader to assess village needs.

Following the talk, the patrol began climbing the steep hill out of the village.

“It’s almost straight up,” Harris



**Petty Officer 2nd Class William Harris, a hospital corpsman with Marine Air Control Squadron 4 salutes Lt. Col. Daniel Fennell, left, commanding officer, MACS 4, Marine Air Control Group 18, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, after being promoted to Petty Officer 2nd Class and awarded two Bronze Star Medals and a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, all with combat devices.** Photo by Lance Cpl. Abigail M. Wharton

said. “You’re climbing with one hand and holding your rifle with the other.”

It was then that the patrol again took enemy fire. Harris was still at the bottom of the hill but knew he had to reach the top to lay down suppressive fire. Madding popped a high concentrated white smoke grenade to conceal their movement.

“I start going up, the whole time I’m going my back is towards where the fire is coming from. You could see the rock breaking and the powder and dust coming up from the impacts of the rounds all on the side of you. You’re just thinking ‘Holy crap, I have to get up there!’”

With 7.62 rounds impacting on either side, Harris and his men reach the hill top and laid down fire for the rest of the patrol still ascending the hill. Once enough men reached the top to lay down their own suppressive fire, Harris’ group began bounding the dreaded Dallas dash.

Once he reached the very end of the dash, he heard talk on the radio. “Muffle, muffle doc.”

“Does anybody need a doc? Does anyone need a corpsman,” Harris remembered screaming.

The message came over the radio three times but after the noise of so many rounds coming and going, he could barely hear anything.

Farris told him he needed to go.

“I just start booking,” Harris said. “I didn’t even bound. I just book it the whole 500 meters down the Dallas dash with rounds impacting right behind me because the enemy can’t lead. Thank God for that.”

When Harris reached the end

of the dash, he saw a downed U.S. soldier with the Army company commander and first sergeant kneeling by his side.

“Sir, I got it. Do your thing,” Harris yelled to the commander.

The fallen soldier had a sucking chest wound and needed medical attention right away, but first Harris and a few others drug him behind the cover of a prebuilt barrier because rounds were still impacting around them.

“When you’re in country and stuff starts happening you almost get like a tunnel vision,” he said. “You have to almost be oblivious to your own environment. ... You almost have to focus and get that tunnel vision and

“The whole reason I joined was because we were in a time of war. We obviously needed people to fight in the war and who better than me.”

- Petty Officer 2nd Class William Harris

everything else just goes blank,” Harris said of trying to be a corpsman in a combat zone.

The soldier was shot in the back. The round went through his lung and out his chest. Harris slapped an occlusive dressing on the front and back and then wrapped his chest in a bandage just loose enough for him to breathe.

While dressing the wound, Harris maintained control of the ANA by directing fire.

“You, call in for a helo! You fire over there! You, what the hell are you doing?” Harris remembered yelling at the ANA.

Eventually they got the soldier on a gurney and moved him to Fire Base Dallas just at the end of the Dallas Dash. The helo called in to extract the soldier was in route, but he still wasn’t safe.

Harris realized that pressure was building up in the soldier’s lungs and had to stick him with a wide needle to relieve the pressure.

After getting the soldier to the fire base, Harris returned to the fight to ensure his men got out alive as well.

For his actions that day, Harris received a Bronze Star with combat device in a ceremony at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Feb. 1. During the same ceremony, Harris also received a second Bronze Star Medal with combat device for his performance throughout the deployment. Harris also received a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with combat device for “heroic actions” July 1.

The deployment was a long-awaited opportunity said Harris who grew up in Monroe, Michigan, a town made up mostly of car plants and factories.

His father died when he was 13. It was up to his mother, Julie Harris-Huntley, to raise him and his two brothers.

“I knew it was college, a job or the military for him,” his mother said. “The military was just the best choice for him at the time and I’m so glad he did. I am so proud of him. The military has done wonders for him. I really hope he re-ups.”

He enlisted in the Navy on Oct. 21, 2004, but did not have the chance to deploy until he came to Okinawa.

“I kept getting passed over,” Harris said. “I didn’t think it was fair. I felt cheated. Once I came here I said anything that comes up put me on the roster. I really wanted to get in country.

“I just wanted to get out there. I can’t explain it,” Harris said. “The whole reason I joined was because we were in a time of war. We obviously needed people to fight in the war and who better than me. I’m young, healthy and I’m in the right mind so that if something were to go wrong it wouldn’t carry over into my personal life.”

Of the July 1, July 30 and the numerous other missions taking enemy contact in which Harris participated, he said it was his ability to control a situation that kept his men safe when the right decision needed to be made.

“It basically comes down to what you have inside and your training,” Harris. “Bravery, the ability to take control of a situation is huge.”

For additional story and photo, visit [www.okinawa.usmc.mil](http://www.okinawa.usmc.mil).



**BRIEFS****YOKOHAMA BAY STARS BASEBALL CLINIC**

Work with the professionals and stick around for autographs and pictures Thursday from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. behind the Ginowan Convention Center. This free clinic is open to all elementary and middle school students. Bring a glove and wear any uniform you have.

To reserve your place, contact Mike Holland at [info@studyandinternjapan.com](mailto:info@studyandinternjapan.com).

**MARINE RECRUITING**

Staff Sgt. Terlaje Raymond, a Marine recruiter, will be on Okinawa Feb. 15 to 21 for recruiting. From Feb. 16 to 17, recruiting information can be attained at Kubasaki High School, and from Feb. 18 to 19 at Kadena High School.

**TAX CENTER OPEN FOR SERVICES**

The Tax Center is open for service aboard Camp Foster at the Legal Services Support Section, building 437. The hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Appointments and walk-ins are accepted.

For more information, call 645-3065.

**FINANCIAL BOOT CAMP**

The Nvy marine Corps Relief Society is holding a "Financial Boot Camp: Feb. 22 through 25 during the Military Saves Week. Workshops will be held each day from 9 a.m. to noon with locations on Camps Foster, Hansen and Kinser.

For more information or to register, call 645-7808.

**HAITI DISASTER SUPPORT GROUP**

Come to the Futenma United Service Organizations from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day for Haiti disaster outreach support group.

Use the phone, receive free phone cards, Skype to reach family and friends in Haiti, talk with chaplains, military family life consultants and other counseling support, enjoy coffee, tea and jomou, traditional Haiti soup.

**FREE, ONLINE TUTORING**

The Defense Department has launched a free, online tutoring service for service members and their families. The Web site, [www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military), offers round-the-clock professional tutors who can assist with homework, studying, test preparation, resume writing and more.

**STUDENT TRANSPORTATION POLICY**

Department of Defense Dependent Schools high school and middle school students are required to have a school bus pass in order to board their assigned school bus on Okinawa. If a bus pass is lost, a military dependent ID card will be accepted as identification until a replacement pass can be obtained.

Replacement bus passes can be obtained at the Camp Foster or Kadena Student Transportation offices daily from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

**TO SUBMIT A BRIEF**, send an e-mail to [okinawamarine.mccb.fct@usmc.mil](mailto:okinawamarine.mccb.fct@usmc.mil), or fax your request to 645-3803. The deadline for submitting a brief is noon every Friday. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material.



**Marines and sailors with the Special Contingency Marine Air Ground Task Force, Africa Partnership Station 10, team up with Sri Lankan United Nations workers to distribute food packages to more than 5,000 Haitians Jan. 24 through 29. Photos by Cpl. Michele Watson**

## Multinational mission: Marines, UN team up to eradicate Haiti hunger

**Cpl. Michele Watson**

SCMAGTF-AFRICA

LEOGANE, Haiti — She was barely 3 feet tall, clothed only in a diaper and wearing a red ribbon in her hair, but the young Haitian girl walked up with surprising confidence to a Marine to receive a package of food nearly equal to her in size.

She was one of more than 5,000 Haitians who lined up at multiple distribution sites to receive food and water from Marines and sailors with Special Contingency Marine Air Ground Task Force, Africa Partnership Station 10. The SCMAGTF-Africa troops teamed up with Sri Lankan United Nations workers to help pass out more than 10,000 Meals, Ready-to-Eat Jan. 24 through 29.

"I think the relationship between the Sri Lankan United Nations and U.S. Marines is vital to the success of our mission in humanitarian assistance in Haiti," said Gunnery Sgt. James Baum, company gunnery sergeant, Ground Combat Element, SCMAGTF-Africa.

The 7.0 magnitude earthquake that hit Haiti Jan. 12 left hundreds of thousands homeless and hungry. After picking up 300 boxes of food, the Marines, sailors and United Nations workers passed food out in Carrefour and Leogane to assist the Haitians in their recovery.

"I thought the Sri Lankan military did an outstanding job working with us," said Baum. "I was impressed with how efficiently they operated. They had a good routine going and a very good rapport with the people."

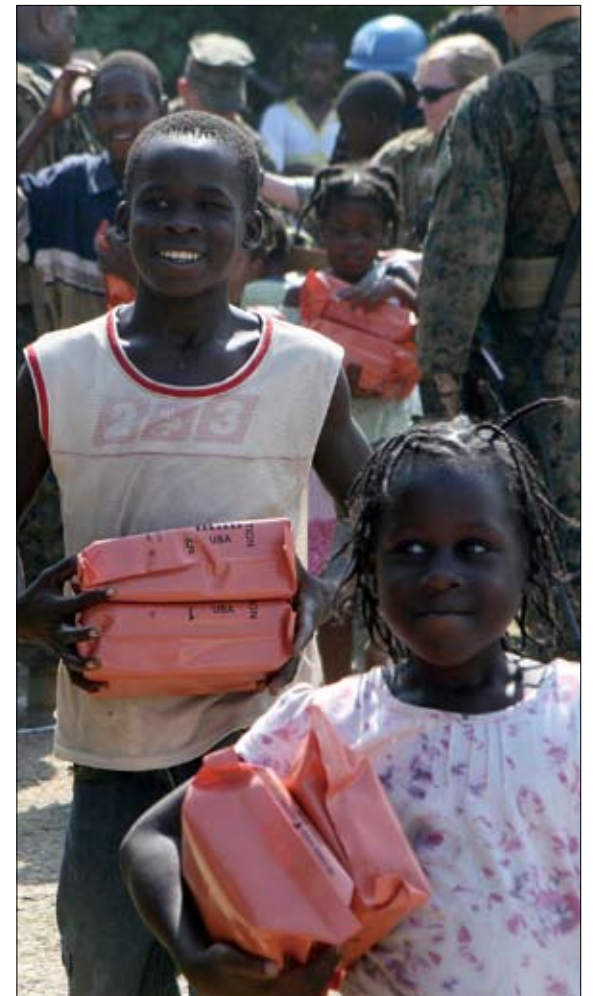
Pallets stacked high with boxes of food continue to be delivered to a landing site enabling the SCMAGTF-Africa to assist with additional humanitarian operations.

"We are scheduled to receive over 90,000 boxes of food to give to various villages throughout the country," said Baum.

Marines with SCMAGTF-Africa came ashore Jan. 21 and surveyed the medical treatment capabilities of local hospitals and clinics while awaiting the delivery of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief supplies for distribution.

"It feels good to be off the ship and assisting those who truly need help," said Cpl. Daniel Lyrta, a squad leader with the GCE. "I think when the guys get back from their missions, they feel a sense of pride and accomplishment and are looking forward to getting back out there and helping again."

The Marines and sailors of SCMAGTF-Africa will continue providing assistance to the Haitian population.



**Two young Haitian children run back to their families after receiving packages of food from Marines and Sri Lankan United Nations forces distributing food.**





**ABOVE:** Cpl. Chris W. Garcia, an assistant survey chief with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, syncs the Dual Dagger satellite positioning system to plot an orientating line for the artillery battery to use as a reference when positioning their weapons during the Hijudai Artillery Relocation Training Program, Jan. 28. The regularly-scheduled artillery training enables Marines to maintain their operational readiness to respond to any contingency where artillery, crew served weapons and small arms fire would be required. **RIGHT:** Sgt. Joshua A. Young, survey chief with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marines, assembles a tripod to mount the Dual Dagger satellite positioning system used to plot an orientating line for the artillery battery to use as a reference when positioning their weapons during the Hijudai Artillery Relocation Training Program Jan. 28. Photos by Cpl. Joseph A. Cabrera



# Marines conduct unilateral artillery training

**2nd Lt. Scott A Sasser**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**HIJUDAI TRAINING AREA, Japan** — In a small, barely heated shack in the mountains of the Hijudai Maneuver Area, the Bi-lateral Coordination Center constantly buzzes with members of the U.S. Marine Corps.

More than 200 Marines with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, stationed on Okinawa and Hawaii are here, a Japanese military installation in the Oita Prefecture, as part of the Artillery Relocation Training Program which facilitates Marine Corps unilateral artillery training in five maneuver areas throughout mainland Japan.

During this training evolution, Marines conduct 10 days of live-fire artillery training which is only accomplished with coordination between the Marines and the Japanese Self De-

fense Force personnel who manage the range.

Many of the Marines go out to the field, perform their jobs and return home without ever knowing the in-depth work that must be completed with a culture and military so different from their own, said Marines who were unfamiliar with the work conducted at the BCC.

“Daily interface and coordination with our Japanese counterparts is an essential element to ensure success of these exercises,” said Capt. Patrick S. Spencer, the operations officer with 3d Bn., 12th Marines.

Inside the BCC, Marines, JGSDF service members and Kyushu Defense Bureau members work to coordinate everything from surface danger zones and the delivery of food and fuel to providing the Marines with a cultural tour on their one day of liberty.

This interaction can be stressful at times with limited access to interpreters and many differences in the way training is conducted between the two

cultures, said U.S. Marines and KDB participants at the training.

The BCC holds nightly meetings in which key members of all three groups sit down with an interpreter to recap each day and resolve any issues.

Although the work may be exhausting at times, the efforts pay off when the two cultures are able to learn from each other. When languages are shared, plans and procedures are done in a joint effort, both cultures benefit, said JGSDF service members.

“I get to make new friends and understand a new culture,” said JGSDF Sgt. Ryo Yamamoto. “I am a JGSDF mechanic and our procedures are very different than those of the U.S. Marine Corps. I get to learn new ways of doing my job.”

For Yamamoto this is his first time working with the Americans and he has found the experience to be very enjoyable.

The BCC is a testament to the steadfast alliance the U.S. has with the Government of Japan, said KDB, JGSDF and U.S. Marine participants.

## BRONZE FROM PG 1

enough to have a talented team on my side, and to me, they are the heroes.”

Bossie said the secret to success in accomplishing the mission during a deployment is simple.

“Look out for each other,” he said. “Be strong in the fundamentals, so when it really counts you can do what needs to be done without a second thought.”

Bossie said the medal isn’t the biggest accomplishment of the deployment.

“What really matters is that my Marines felt taken care of, and that we did everything we set out to do,” he said.



**Maj. Jonathan Bossie, right, with Special Operations Training Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, is presented a Bronze Star Medal with combat device in a ceremony at Camp Hansen Jan. 22 by Col. Michael Langley, officer-in-charge of SOTG.** Photo by Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland

## GOLD FROM PG 1

Cobra Gold “is the capstone of military operations, from disaster relief to real combat capabilities,” said John. “It is very much a mark of each participating military’s commitment to the welfare of their nation.”

Mixon said Cobra Gold “remains a mark of our combined commitment to regional stability in Southeast Asia.

“I firmly believe Cobra Gold remains unparalleled in preparing our militaries for the real-world priorities of humanitarian assistance as well as supporting peace, stability and reconstruction throughout this region,” Mixon said.

For more information about Cobra Gold 2010, visit [www.usarpac.army.mil/cobragold.html](http://www.usarpac.army.mil/cobragold.html). For photos of the opening ceremony, visit [www.flickr.com/photos/cobragold10](http://www.flickr.com/photos/cobragold10).





Story and photos by  
Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Lance Cpl. Robert Mendez, an intelligence specialist with 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, observes as Pfc. Brandon Freeman, a t  
consults his map before entering the woods during the land navigation portion of a field skills training exercise at Landing Zone Crow in the Central Training Area Jan. 26.



A Marine ties camouflage netting together during a field skills training exercise.

# Training boosts basic fie

Approximately 80 Marines from Headquarters Battery, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, participated in a field skills training exercise at Landing Zone Crow in the Central Training Area Jan. 26-28.

The training reiterated basic field skills such as combat lifesaving, convoy procedures, land navigation and patrolling, said Capt. Jeramy Brady, the battery's commanding officer.

"This exercise will allow our unit to be versed equally in both basic skills and the skills of every other section," Brady said. "Rehearsing fundamentals and

specific skills every couple of months makes us more plug and play and ensures every Marine is proficient at every job."

The Marines were divided into three groups which each received an instructor for the duration of the exercise.

"We have each group with the same instructor for the entire three days so the Marines can familiarize themselves with their teaching style and fully concentrate on executing their objectives properly," Brady said.

After classes, the groups applied practical application.

The land navigation portion consisted of Marines shooting

azimuths to locate numbered boxes throughout the woods around the landing zone. The combat lifesaving skills portion reinforced steps to take when treating a casualty. The convoy section focused on basic convoy procedures and detailed the set up of and multiple uses for camouflage netting.

Lance Cpl. Alexander Crooks, a logistics vehicle system operator with the battery, said the in-depth training helped to jog his memory on things he hasn't been exposed to often.

"I feel refreshed from this exercise, even if it only covered the essentials," Crooks said. "Without





training clerk with Headquarters Battery, 12th Marines,

# ld skills

reiteration, Marines run the risk of losing the fundamentals that may save their lives one day.”

Brady said he hopes to implement a refresher course for his unit at least once every two months to review the fundamental elements of operating in the field.

“We’re striving for a firm knowledge base that can be built upon, and that means reviewing the basics to make sure we’ve still got it,” Brady said.

“Taking the time to knock off the rust every once in a while is imperative,” he said. “Because these skills are extremely perishable.”



Marines of 12th Marines fold camouflage netting during the convoy section of the exercise at Landing Zone Crow Jan. 26. During this training section, Marines learned multiple uses for the netting.



Lance Cpl. Robert Mendez, an intelligence specialist with 12th Marine Regiment, observes as Pfc. Brandon Freeman, a training clerk with Headquarters Battery, 12th Marines, consults his map before entering the woods during the land navigation portion of the exercise.



Marines of 12th Marines stage their gear at the start of the exercise at Landing Zone Crow in the Central Training Area Jan. 26.



# Hawaiian finds home in Reconnaissance

**Lance Cpl. Abigail M. Wharton**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The quick smile and laugh of Cpl. Kamuela Foster would never hint at the rough childhood that inspired him to want to be in an elite unit among the few and the proud.

Foster, a Marine with Force Company, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, joined the Marine Corps, specifically reconnaissance, because he wanted to be the best.

The most noticeable feature about his appearance is a scar on his face from a night of playing Texas hold 'em with friends when he tried to push open a glass door during a smoke break from the game. He laughed while recalling how his arm punched through the glass, and his head hit the shattered edges.

Foster has many happy memories of good times with fellow Marines. His memories of childhood are not as pleasant.

The 20-year-old was raised by his aunt and grandmother in Maui, Hawaii, where he surfed

during his free time.

Foster moved a lot during his youth, never settling in one place for long. He said it was hard on him because he was never able to settle into a normal childhood.

According to Foster, his decision to enlist in the Corps was partly influenced by his family.

"Most of my family was into drugs, so the Marine Corps offered me a way to stay out of that," Foster said. "Otherwise, I would probably have fallen into the same lifestyle."

In spite of what he describes as an uninspiring upbringing, Foster says the Marine Corps has given him a better outlook on life.

"It's shown me how I need to prepare myself for what I want in the future," he said.

Foster said he is undecided about whether to reenlist in the Corps or pursue a career as a mechanic.

"The world needs mechanics no matter how bad it gets," he said with a laugh. However, Foster then went on to say, "being a recon Marine is what I enjoy doing though."

"We work hard and play hard," he said. "We also



**Cpl. Kamuela Foster, Force Company, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, instructs Marines on proper house-clearing tactics. Foster is currently the only Hawaiian in 3rd Recon Bn.**

Photo by Lance Cpl. Abigail M. Wharton

get to go to a lot of different schools to learn how to manipulate the tools we have in any situation to accomplish our mission."

In any case, Foster ad-

mits the Marine Corps has played a big role in changing him.

"I used to be more thick skulled, and I would isolate myself and just do the

minimum to get by," he said. "Now, I work with a team, and we operate with trust not to put each others' lives in danger."

Now, he said he tries to be the best at everything he does.

His friend, Cpl. Cody Uriah Impson, also a recon Marine but with Co. F, describes him as a, "uniquely well-rounded, optimistic and good-charmed recon Marine."

Foster's friends gave him the nickname "Pineapple" since he is currently the only Marine in 3rd Recon Bn. from Hawaii, Impson added.

"It makes me feel good," Foster said of his nickname and unique home location. "The Marine Corps is a diverse organization, but since recon is smaller, there is less diversity, and I made it."

Foster explained how the ethnic groups in the recon community are much smaller, so for him to be part of the community is a big accomplishment.

"We are jacks-of-all-trades and masters of none," Foster said. "I really enjoy going to different schools with other Marines to learn new skills and strategies."

## JWTC keeps training mean, green

**Lance Cpl. Stefanie C. Pupkiewicz**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

In the northern most training area of Okinawa, the Marine Corps' Jungle Warfare Training Center serves as the only U.S. Armed Force's jungle warfare training facility in the world.

The center also serves as a preservation facility for a variety of plants, animals and insects exclusive to the Ryukyu Islands.

Maintaining the environment is needed to provide the most realistic jungle training possible for Marines and other service members using the center, said Cpl. Derek Percival, an instructor and unit environmental representative with JWTC.

The only time the natural environment is altered by JWTC personnel is when there is a safety risk to students, Percival said. Alterations can include the removal of a dead tree from a camp site or repairing the roads that twist through the vast acreage of the center.

One of the most important efforts underway at JWTC is the capture and removal of mongoose, Percival said.

The small Indian mongoose was brought to Okinawa in 1910 to control the population of rats and poisonous snakes. The mongoose population has since grown and expanded to northern Okinawa, according to a Secre-

tary of Defense Environmental Awards narrative. One of the largest problems with the invasive mongoose species is it preys upon the endangered Okinawa Rail, a bird found only on Okinawa.

The Okinawa Rail is just one of approximately 20 threatened, endangered or protected species found in JWTC, according to the narrative.

Students and staff are briefed prior to any exercises in the jungle about the variety of wildlife and instructed to leave it alone.

"We just don't mess with the turtles," Percival said jokingly about the number of turtle species living in JWTC.

Turtles are not the only animals left undisturbed. The habu snake, which also comes in several varieties, presents a potentially deadly hazard staff members teach students to avoid. In addition to the habu, salamanders, millipedes and centipedes also present health hazards.

These hazards are mitigated by constructing hammocks or swamp beds in the jungle to help alleviate the concern of a habu or millipede crawling into a Marine's sleeping bag at night, Percival said.

Training conducted at the site is carefully organized so students will have the most realistic experience possible while maintaining continuity of the jungle so future students can share an equal experience, Percival said.

**The rugged environment of the Jungle Warfare Training Center is home to a wide assortment of plants, animals and insects. There are at least 20 endangered, threatened or protected species in the jungle.**

Photo by Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland



# Runner survives captivity, completes mission

**Lance Cpl. Thomas W. Provost**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

*From advancing on Santo Domingo to defending the island of Corregidor in Manila Bay to fighting in the mountains of Afghanistan, the many generations of the Okinawa-based 4th Marine Regiment have fought their way around the world.*

"The Marines of 4th Marines continue to uphold the traditions of the past in serving in the oldest and proudest Regiment in the Marine Corps," said Capt. Dale H. Webster, operations officer, 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "They continue to accomplish their duties in remembrance of those gone before all throughout the Pacific Theatre to include China, Philippines, and Vietnam."

First activated April 16, 1914, 4th Marines is officially the oldest regiment in the Corps and has birthed many stories of honor, courage and commitment, said regiment Marines.

One such story that resounds with the current Marines of the regiment is of former prisoner of war Pfc. Arthur "Art" Jones and the 4th Marines plaque.

The story began in 1942 with a simple order, "Hang on to that plaque."

This was the order Capt. Austin C. Shofner, F Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, gave to Jones about a plaque that had made its way from China to the Philippines with the regiment.

"This I expected to do against all odds," recounted Jones in his biography.

After a gallant defense of the Philippines and with no reinforcements on the way, orders were passed down for all U.S. forces in the Philippines, including 4th Marines, to surrender. Reluctantly, those Marines were the first in the Corps' history to surrender.

Jones held on to the plaque throughout his detainment. The plaque was taken away several times as he was beaten by Japanese guards, but it always found its way back to him.

The plaque quickly became a source of motivation for Jones to survive.

"I knew that I had to do something in order to survive," Jones recalled in the biography. "One night on our return from work detail, I was looking in the bag I had with me when I glimpsed the Marine Corps plaque. This brought me a new surge of strength and determination."

Jones said the plaque saved him.

"In Hanawa one day, I had the Marine plaque out when a Japanese guard was getting ready to rough me up with his rifle butt," Jones said in his biography. "He asked if I was a Marine. I replied in the affirmative. This guard could speak broken English. I told him the story of the plaque. He told me that he knew of the Marines and said they were brave fighting men. He then turned around and left me. The plaque, I'm sure, saved me from a beating."

Jones eventually became ill with fluid and congestion built up in his chest, causing a great amount of sustained pain. The pain became too

great, and Jones knew he had to do something. His mind traveled to the plaque.

"I got to my feet and with all the strength I could muster; I began to jog up and down the length of the barracks. Oh, how it hurt," Jones stated in the biography. "I don't know exactly what happened, but the fluids in my chest seemed to go someplace else and the pain eased. Again, due to the Marine plaque, I had a will to survive."

Eventually the war in the Pacific ended with the Japanese surrender aboard the USS Missouri. Jones, with plaque in hand, was freed.

In 1973, Jones contacted his old company commander, now retired Brig. Gen. Shofner. In 2004, the two met again, and decided to give the plaque to the Marine Corps Museum.

According to Staff Sgt. Kelly R. Vansickle, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear defense chief, 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, this is just one of many stories of Marines from 4th Marines.

"When people come up to the regiment to train, or if they are part of the regiment, they should take with them the history of the unit when they leave," said Vansickle.

The regiment is still adding to its history today as regiment Marines are deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and numerous exercises and contingencies around the Asia-Pacific region.

Past generations of the 4th Marines live on though stories kept and retold by the current Marines of the Corps' oldest regiment.

## Spouses cultivate quality of life with community involvement

**Lance Cpl. Aaron Hostutler**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The American Women's Welfare Association visited local welfare centers Jan. 25 supported by AWWA.

The AWWA distributes within local communities funds raised by various Armed Services spouses' gift shops on Okinawa and the Kadena Thrift shop.

"We go out to the sites and visit because the dynamic between AWWA and the organizations is more than just writing a check. It is a relationship between the two organizations," said Sarah Yaroslaski, president of AWWA.

First, women from AWWA visited the Uruma City Health and Welfare Center in Uruma City where they met with center officials and members of the community who use the facility.

"Our goal is to provide a healthy and wholesome environment so people can meet others with similar interest so they can enjoy getting in shape together," said Kayou Sou-kichi, chairman of the Uruma City Welfare Council.

The center is equipped with several pools, an exercise instruction room, communication rooms, a mentally disabled supporting center and a cooking room.

In the past, AWWA has helped the center by providing supplies critical to the center's mission. This year, AWWA is considering purchasing a van with a lift capable of transporting 10 disabled individuals, according to Yaroslaski.

"We have differences, but the AWWA has provided a window to work through our problems," Sou-kichi said. "Through them, I'd like to strengthen the communication and relationship between the American military personnel and the locals."

After departing the center, AWWA representatives traveled to Nago to visit Namakarado Corporation, a care facility for the elderly, including the mentally and physically disabled.

The name Namakarado means 'the beginning' according to Seiko Ooshiro, the corporation's founder.



**Women from the American Women Welfare Association visit the elderly in the physical training room in the Uruma City Health and Welfare Center. The AWWA uses donations from several on base clubs to purchase needed equipment for centers like this. Photo by Lance Cpl. Aaron D. Hostutler**

"I don't want them to feel like their life is over," she said. "Our objective is to help the elderly live their lives to the fullest."

The AWWA is also considering Namakarado's application for purchase of a special needs vehicle to better support the disabled in the community, according to Yaroslaski.

"I choked up watching Ooshiro-san interact with her clients," Yaroslaski said. "You can tell she cares for them and truly loves what she does. It really is humbling to see."

Equipment purchases for these organizations helps foster the relationship with the Okinawan and military communities, said Yaroslaski.

"Yesterday I went bowling," Sou-kichi said. "I saw Okinawan children playing with American children and I realized how vital it is to work on our relationship now and in the future."



# Cherry blossoms mark spring's approach

Story and photos by Cpl. Rebekka S. Heite

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**S**leeping babies, laughing toddlers, crowds of teenagers and adults, came together Saturday and Sunday to see the earliest sign of spring on Okinawa—the blooming of the cherry blossom trees.

The 2010 Nago Cherry Blossom festival drew crowds of people together with food, games, rides, parades, other festivities and the scent and sight of thousands of cherry blossom trees blooming.

“It’s a typical Okinawan festival; I loved it,” said Cpl. Christopher Neal, an armorer with Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, who attended the festival Saturday.

Food vendors sold everything from the standard carnival fry and corn dog kiosks to sweet and sour pork on a stick and bananas dipped-in-chocolate while-you-wait kiosks. Game vendors, hawking games such as darts, fishing and miniature bowling, also lined the sidewalks as festival goers made their way from surrounding parking lots to the Nago Castle site in Nago Central Park.

The more than 700 stone steps inside the park lead to the castle site and are lined with ishidoro or stone lanterns that are lit at sunset each night.

Festival goers who left the sea of color on the streets to see the castle site didn’t have to tackle all those steps at once. About half-way to the castle site there is a torii gate and a shinto shrine where people could rest, take photographs and buy ice cream if they wanted.

At set times throughout the weekend, festival goers lined the main parade route to watch performers, from Japanese eisa dancers to the III MEF Band, make their way down the street.

“I didn’t expect the festival to encompass this much of the city,” said Lance Cpl. Andrew Baab, generator mechanic with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd MLG, III MEF.

“It was definitely worth coming out,” he said. “Okinawa is a beautiful place with an explosion of colors and culture,” he added.

“Okinawa’s culture is deep and fascinating,” Neal seconded.



People crowded Nago city streets during the 2010 Nago Cherry Blossom festival Saturday and Sunday. The festival was held in the Nago Central Park area where thousands of cherry blossom trees bloomed marking the coming of spring.



More than 700 stone steps lined by stone lanterns and blooming cherry blossom trees lead the Nago Cherry Blossom festival goers to the Nago Castle site Saturday and Sunday.



**IN THEATERS NOW****FEBRUARY 5 - FEBRUARY 11****FOSTER**

**TODAY** Legion (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Old Dogs (PG), noon; Everybody's Fine (PG13), 3 p.m.; Daybreakers (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Planet 51 (PG), 1 p.m.; Everybody's Fine (PG13), 4 p.m.; Edge of Darkness (R), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Daybreakers (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Daybreakers (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** The Blind Side (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Edge of Darkness (R), 7 p.m.

**SCHWAB**

**TODAY** The Book of Eli (R), 7 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Ninja Assassin (R), 5 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Armored (PG13), 5 p.m.  
**MONDAY-THURSDAY** Closed

**KADENA**

**TODAY** Everybody's Fine (PG13), 6 p.m.; The Blind Side (PG13), 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** The Blind Side (PG13), noon; Everybody's Fine (PG13), 3:30 p.m.; Legion (R) 6:30 and 9:30 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Closed for "Gospel Concert"  
**MONDAY** Legion (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** The Book of Eli (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Everybody's Fine (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** The Book of Eli (R), 7 p.m.

**COURTNEY**

**TODAY** Edge of Darkness (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Astro Boy (PG), 2 p.m.; Ninja Assassin (R), 6 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Old Dogs (PG), 2 p.m.; The Book of Eli (R), 6 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Ninja Assassin (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** Legion (R), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Closed

**HANSEN**

**TODAY** Everybody's Fine (PG13), 6 p.m.; The Box (PG13), 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** The Book of Eli (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** The Blind Side (PG13), 2 p.m.; Everybody's Fine (PG13), 5:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Edge of Darkness (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Edge of Darkness (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** The Blind Side (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Legion (R), 7 p.m.

**KINSER**

**TODAY** Everybody's Fine (PG13), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Alvin & the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (PG), 3 p.m.; The Blind Side (PG13), 6:30 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Alvin & the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (PG), 3 p.m.; Everybody's Fine (PG13), 6:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Closed  
**TUESDAY** Couples Retreat (PG13), 6:30 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Edge of Darkness (R), 3 and 6:30 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Old Dogs (PG), 6:30 p.m.

**FUTENMA**

**TODAY** Ninja Assassin (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Edge of Darkness (R), 4 and 7 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Avatar (PG13), 4 p.m.; Armored (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** The Book of Eli (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** Closed  
**THURSDAY** Closed

**THEATER DIRECTORY**

**CAMP FOSTER** 645-3465  
**KADENA AIR BASE** 634-1869  
 (USO NIGHT) 632-8781  
**MCAS FUTENMA** 636-3890  
 (USO NIGHT) 636-2113  
**CAMP COURTNEY** 622-9616  
**CAMP HANSEN** 623-4564  
 (USO NIGHT) 623-5011  
**CAMP KINSER** 637-2177  
**CAMP SCHWAB** 625-2333  
 (USO NIGHT) 625-3834

Movie schedule is subject to change without notice. Call in advance to confirm show times. For a complete listing, visit <http://www.aafes.com>.



## SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

For more information, or to sign up, contact the Single Marine Program at 645-3681

All bus pick-up points will be at Semper Fit gyms or the Foster Fieldhouse.

**EXPO PARK: TOMORROW**

• The aquarium recreates the waters of Okinawa from the surface to the ocean floor. Come see 8.4-meter long whale sharks and huge manta rays, the largest of their kind! Cost is ¥1,800 at the door and \$10 to sign up at the SMP office.

**WHALE WATCHING: FEB. 27**

• Cost is ¥3,900 and \$10 for transportation payable at the SMP office. Contact the SMP office for more information or to sign up.

**FOREST ADVENTURE PARK: MAR. 6**

• Cost is ¥3,000 at the door and \$10 for transportation. Contact the SMP office for more information or to sign up.

**TAKE THE BUSHIDO CHALLENGE: APRIL 27, 29, MAY 7**

• Bushido means way of the warrior and this challenge will be a test of the warrior. The Bushido Challenge Southern will be held on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma April 27 and the Bushido Challenge Northern will be held on Camp Hansen April 29. The best 10 teams from each challenge will compete in the final challenge May 7. Top three teams from the final challenge will win prizes. This is open to teams of four, of which at least one team member must be a single or unaccompanied Marine or sailor. This will be a physically demanding challenge with competitions including a physical fitness test, a combat fitness test, a tire flip, an up-armored humvee pull, a dead arm hang, a shot put and other events. For more information or to register, call SMP.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

• Volunteer at the Marine Thrift Shop Tuesday-Thursday and Saturday.

**The Marine Thrift Shop supports the SMP,  
and by staying thrifty, so can you!**

Marine Thrift Shop  
 Camp Foster, Building 5691  
 645-6025  
 Shop - Donate - Volunteer

**CHAPEL SCHEDULE****CAMP FOSTER | 645-7486**

• *Catholic*: Mon.-Fri., 11:45 a.m.; Sat., 5 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.  
 • *Christian Science*: Sun., 11 a.m., Bldg. 442  
 • *Eastern Orthodox*: Sun., 9:30 a.m., Vespers, Sat., 5 p.m.  
 • *Gospel*: Sun., 11:30 a.m.  
 • *Hindu*: Sat., 3:30 p.m.  
 • *Jewish*: Fri., Traditional, 6 p.m.; Informal: 1st, 3rd Fri., 6:30 p.m.  
 • *Muslim*: Fri., Prayer, 12:45 p.m.  
 • *Protestant*: Sun., 8:30 a.m.  
 • *Seventh Day Adventist*: Sat., 10 a.m.

**CAMP SCHWAB | 622-9350**

• *Catholic*: Sun., 5:30 p.m.  
 • *Protestant*: Sun., 4 p.m.

**CAMP COURTNEY | 622-9350**

• *Catholic*: Sun., 8 and 11:15 a.m.; Mon.-Fri., 11:45 a.m..  
 • *Protestant*: Sun., 9:30 a.m.

**CAMP KINSER | 637-1148**

• *Catholic*: Sun., 11 a.m.  
 • *Protestant*: Sun., 9 a.m.

**CAMP HANSEN | 622-9350**

• *Catholic*: Sun., 10 a.m., E. Chapel  
 • *Protestant*: Sun., 11 a.m., W. Chapel

**KADENA AIR BASE | 634-1288**

• *Catholic*: Sun., 8:30 a.m., Mass, Chapel 3; Sun., 11:30 a.m., Reconciliation, Chapel 3; Sun., 12:30 p.m., Mass, Chapel 3; Sun., 5 p.m., Mass, Chapel 2; Daily Mass, Mon.-Fri., noon, Chapel 2  
 • *Contemporary*: Sun., 10:30 a.m., Kadena High School  
 • *Gospel*: Sunday School, 9 a.m., Bldg. 856; Service 10:30 a.m., Chapel 3  
 • *Inspirational*: Sun., 8:30 a.m., Chapel 2;  
 • *Protestant*: Sun., 10 a.m., Chapel 2;  
 • *Traditional*: Sun., 10:30 a.m., Chapel 2;  
 • *Wiccan/Pagan*: Sat., 2 p.m., Bldg. 856

**CAMP LESTER | 643-7248**

• *Catholic*: Sun., 8 a.m., Lester Chapel  
 Tues., 7:15 a.m., Thurs., 9 a.m., Liturgy of Word  
 • *Non-Denominational*: Sun., 9 a.m., Hospital Chapel; Sun., 10 a.m., Lester Chapel

**MCAS FUTENMA | 636-3058**

• *Catholic*: Sun., noon  
 • *Contemporary*: Fri., 7 p.m.; Sun., 9 a.m.  
 • *High school senior service*: Sat. 6 p.m.

**CAMP McTUREOUS | 622-9350**

• *Gospel*: Sun., 12:30 p.m.  
 • *Lutheran*: Sun., 9:30 a.m.  
 • *Protestant Lethurgical*: Sun., 6:30 p.m.

**CLASSIFIED ADS****AUTOMOBILES**

'98 TOYOTA MARK II GRND REGALIA  
 JCI AUG 2011,  
 \$2,500 OBO  
 (090)6861-7229

'96 HONDA STEPWAGON  
 JCI AUG 2010,  
 \$1,500  
 (090)6861-7242

'96 NISSAN CIMA  
 JCI 2011,  
 \$4,500 OBO  
 (090)9783-6447

JACKSON DKMG DINKY GUITAR, AMP, TUNER, MORE  
 ALL FOR \$800 OBO  
 (090)8407-5632

PEARL DRUMS, ARMCHAIR, A/C  
 PRICES VARY  
 (090)9783-6447

**MISCELLANEOUS**

ESP M-I \$900  
 ESP ALEXI LAIHO V GUITARS \$2,000  
 BOGNER ALCHEMIST AMP 100V \$900  
 GENZ BENZ G-FLEX 2X12 CABNET \$550  
 (090)9787-7953

**Sell your vehicle and unwanted items.  
Place a FREE Ad with the Okinawa Marine!**

Ads appearing in the Okinawa Marine are a free service to active duty military and their dependents, DoD employees and retirees. Ads are restricted to personal property or service of incidental exchange. Ads are run on a space-available basis. The deadline for ads is noon Fridays. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit ads to fit available space. Please include your name and the phone number you wish published. The Okinawa Marine makes every effort to ensure accuracy but assumes no responsibility for services offered in ads. Submit ads by fax to 645-3803, or send an e-mail to [okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil](mailto:okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil).



# King of Cage makes big island debut

**KING OF THE CAGE**  
 Story and photo by Lance Cpl. Kentavist P. Brackin  
 OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

More than 2,000 people, including U.S. service members, crowded into the Okinawa Convention Center to see the King of the Cage tournament Saturday evening.

"This is the first time King of the Cage has come to Okinawa, and we hope to continue to bring events like this to Okinawa if this tournament is successful," said Steven Sigafus, a King of the Cage producer.

The pay-per-view, mixed martial arts tournament featured 15 bouts between Japanese and American fighters.

The events kicked off with a performance by eisa dancers and drummers followed by the first matchup of the evening which ended with a knockout in the first round.

That match set the tone for the evening as people rooted for their favorite fighters.

"It was very ground and pound. ... It was pretty excellent," said Lance Cpl. Sean R. Smith, a motor transportation operator with Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "It was rowdy and controlled at the same time. We could let loose and cheer for our home team without having to worry about getting into trouble."

Bouts consisted of three 5-minute rounds with wins determined by knockout, tap out or the best performing fighter.

The World Junior Flyweight Championship belt matchup between the undefeated champion Frank Baca and Mamoru Yamaguchi was the last fight of the night.

Both fighters traded punches and kicks with each other until the third round when Mamoru claimed victory by tap out

when he locked Baca in a choke hold.

"I thought the match was pretty sweet. It gave a lot of Marines and junior competitors a chance to see what competition is like in the MMA world," said Smith.

"Although some fights were more enjoyable than others, the whole tournament was still epic. I would definitely recommend that we do this again," he said.

One King of the Cage fighter said he too hopes to have this type of event on Okinawa again in the future.

"I am originally Army, and I know we (and the Marines) go back and forth but we all serve together," said Tony Hervey, a fighter in one the main event matches of the evening. "I enjoyed being out there and able to perform for everyone. I wouldn't trade this job for any in the world."

Tatsuya Sou, right, connects a right hook with the face of Shigeki Matsuda, left, during the King of the Cage, a mixed martial arts tournament appearing on the island for the first time at the Okinawa Convention Center Saturday.

## Marines relay for local traffic safety

Lance Cpl. Abigail M. Wharton  
 OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Marines from various 1st Marine Aircraft Wing units ran in the 33rd Ginowan City Traffic Safety Campaign Relay Race Jan. 23 starting and finishing at the Ginowan Civic Plaza.

The race is to support the traffic safety policies of Ginowan City.

The opening ceremony featured the Mayor of Ginowan City, Yoichi Iha, speaking about traffic safety.

In his speech he talked about the four "pillars" of the Ginowan City Traffic Safety Campaign which are: to eliminate driving under the influence of alcohol, protect children and senior citizens from traffic accidents, prevent motorcycle accidents and prevent traffic accidents at intersections.

Participants from elementary schools, universities, fire departments, police stations and senior citizens groups on Okinawa also ran relays of 700 meters to 1500 meters to pass a sash to teammates at checkpoints.

This year, our team of 14 Marines was composed of strong runners so it was more competitive, said Sgt. Maj. Timothius M. Robinson, Marine Corps Air Station Futenma sergeant major.

"We run in this relay to show that we support the Ginowan City Traffic Campaign," said Robinson, the team's first runner, "We are trying to



The first relay of runners in the 33rd Ginowan City Traffic Safety Campaign Relay Race start running at the Ginowan Civic Plaza Jan. 23. Photo by Hiroko Tamaki, Big Circle Editor

be good neighbors by coming. Okinawans attend our festivals, so now we can return the courtesy."

"Our purpose in inviting the Marines is to raise their traffic safety awareness," Iha said. "This is the only relay race that specifically promotes traffic safety, so I would like as many people as possible to join us."

The Marine team took fourth place in the 14,000 meter run and was only five minutes behind the winning team, Okinawa International University, a local university.

"It was challenging, but also fun," said 1st Lt. Wendell Smith, air control officer with Marine Air Support Squadron 2, Marine Air Control Group 18, 1st MAW, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "I hope to come back if given the opportunity, and I would encourage groups like Young Marines or the Girl Scouts to participate as well."

Overall, the Marines seemed to have fun competing and then mingling with other participants, said Elena Takaho, community relations specialist at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

Lance Cpl. Matthew Adams, electronic equipment repair specialist, MASS-2, said he ran the

race because "I wanted to come out and show that the Marines are glad to work with the Okinawan people."

Those interested in participating in next year's relay race should contact their unit's community relations specialist.



Representatives from the Marine team accept the 4th place award for the 33rd Ginowan City Traffic Safety Campaign Relay Race from Yoichi Iha, mayor of Ginowan City. Photo by Lance Cpl. Abigail M. Wharton